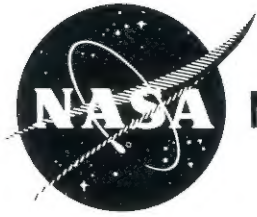




APOLLO 8 LAUNCH FROM KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

7:51 a.m. (EST), December 21, 1968



## **NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

**APOLLO 8 LIFTOFF** — The launch of the Apollo 8 space vehicle from the Kennedy Space Center at 7:51 a.m. (EST), December 21, 1968, was the beginning of the historic journey to orbit the moon and return. The Apollo 8 astronauts who made the first trip around the moon were Frank Borman, commander; James A. Lovell, Jr., command module pilot; and William A. Anders, lunar module pilot. Apollo 8 was the first manned Saturn V launch.